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23. (NEW) The display control method of claim 11, further comprising:
deleting the mark.

24. (NEW) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein the
instructions cause the machine to perform operations further comprising:
deleting the mark.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on April 1, 2002, Figures 1, 4-7, and 9-12 were objected to; claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Kaply (U.S. Patent No. 6,215,490 B1) ("Kaply"); and claims 3-7, 10-14, and 17-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaply in view of Ludolph (U.S. Patent No. 5,874,958) ("Ludolph"). The foregoing objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1-24 are pending in the subject application, of which claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent. Claims 1, 4, 8, 11-15, and 18-21 are amended and new claims 22-24 are added. Care has been exercised to avoid the introduction of new matter. A Version With Markings To Show Changes Made to the specification and amended claims is included herewith.

Objections to Figures:

The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the amendments to Figures 1, 4-7, and 9-12 submitted herewith. The Applicants are concurrently submitting a Letter Submitting Drawings and a Letter to the Examiner Requesting Approval of the Changes to the Drawings. The Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objections thereto.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e):

Kaply discusses displaying on a GUI a graphical control device that allows a user to navigate through a hierarchy of windows in the GUI and, in particular, to selectively place a given window at the active position on the display screen (Kaply, col. 1, lines 62-67). The graphical

control device has a plurality of identifiers, each of which is associated with a given one of the plurality of windows (Kaply, col. 2, lines 8-10). Thus, if the graphical control device is a slider, each of the identifiers is a “notch” on the slider (Kaply, col. 2, lines 10-12). As each notch is traversed, the window associated therewith is brought into the focus position (Kaply, col. 2, lines 17-19). As the user moves the control element across each “notch” of the control device, the task window located at the focus position changes (Kaply, col. 2, lines 44-47). However, an additional action is required from the user to change the task window located at the focus position back to the original display.

In contrast, claims 1, 8, and 15 of the subject application (as amended herein) recite (using the language of claims 8 and 15 as an example) “automatically” returning the display to said first display region in response to a cancellation of the scrolling process. MPEP § 2131 states that “[a] claim is anticipated only if *each and every element* as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. The *identical* invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim” (emphasis added). Kaply does not disclose or suggest automatically returning the display to the original display region in response to a cancellation of the scrolling process. Upon cancellation of scrolling in Kaply, the user would have to make an additional input to select the original display region. Clearly, claims 1, 8, and 15 are not anticipated by Kaply.

In addition to being allowable based on their dependency, directly or indirectly, from one of allowable claims 1, 8, and 15, claims 2, 9, and 16 of the subject application recite patentably distinguishing features of their own. Claims 2, 9, and 16 recite “both said first display region and said second display region are displayed within a single window which is displayed on the display screen.” In Kaply, relevant first and second display regions, e.g., task windows 1 and 2, are displayed as multiple windows on the display screen, and slider 208 is used to navigate among them (Kaply, col. 7, line 55 – col. 8, line 17; Figure 5a). In contrast, in claims 2, 9, and 16 of the subject application, the recited first and second display regions are displayed within a single window, e.g., editing region 1, on the display screen, e.g., window frame 9, that is controlled by a scrolling process (Specification, Figures 4-7). Clearly, claims 2, 9, and 16 are not anticipated by Kaply.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a):

Ludolph discusses a GUI containing sliding panels along its edges, where each sliding

panels contains an application (Ludolph, col. 5, lines 7-10). The sliding panels move between an open and a closed state in response to a change in position of a cursor, or in response to a change in position of a cursor coupled with a depression of a mouse button (Ludolph, col. 5, lines 6-10; col. 6, lines 17-20). The sliding panels either close automatically when the cursor is moved outside the panel or remain open despite the cursor position (Ludolph, col. 5, lines 10-12; col. 6, lines 8-10). Ludolph also discusses multiple windows in a display area that are controlled by a switch 214 (Ludolph, col. 5, lines 39-43). The switch 214 controls which window(s) are displayed (Ludolph, col. 5, lines 44-51). Ludolph does not disclose or suggest automatically returning to a first display region in response to a cancellation of a scrolling process.

MPEP §2142 states that "[w]hen the motivation to combine the teachings of the references is not immediately apparent, it is the duty of the examiner to explain why the combination of the teachings is proper." The Examiner is required to present actual evidence and make particular findings related to the motivation to combine the teachings of the references. In re Kotzab, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000); In re Dembiczkak, 50 USPQ2d 1614, 1617 (Fed. Cir. 1999). Broad conclusory statements regarding the teaching of multiple references, standing alone, are not "evidence." Dembiczkak, 50 USPQ2d at 1617. "The factual inquiry whether to combine the references must be thorough and searching." In re Lee, 61 USPQ2d 1430, 1433 (Fed. Cir. 2002) (citing McGinley v. Franklin Sports, Inc., 60 USPQ2d 1001, 1008 (Fed. Cir. 2001)). The factual inquiry must be based on objective evidence of record, and cannot be based on subjective belief and unknown authority. Id. at 1433-34. The Examiner must explain the reasons that one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to select the references and to combine them to render the claimed invention obvious. In re Rouffet, 47 USPQ2d 1453, 1459 (Fed. Cir. 1998).

The Examiner has not adequately set forth the motivation to combine Kaply and Ludolph. The only reason given by the Examiner in support of such motivation is that the combination "allows the user to utilize the desktop within the confines of a large window while preserving remaining screen space for non desktop functions." The Examiner has not presented any evidence why someone of ordinary skill in the art would have selected the two references for combination. The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination. MPEP § 2143.01. Specifically, there must be a suggestion or motivation in the references to make the combination or modification. Id. The Examiner cannot rely on the benefit of the combination without thoroughly supporting his assertion, with actual evidence and

particular findings, that the combination is proper. Without more, the combination is improper, and the Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). However, in case the improper combination is upheld, the Applicants will address the combination for purposes of argument, without admitting that the combination is proper.

Assuming arguendo that the combination of Kaply and Ludolph is proper, the combination would discuss a GUI containing a display area that contained multiple windows. The windows would be selected by a slider or a switch. Sliding panels each containing an application would be activated and deactivated depending on the position of a cursor. The combination would not disclose or suggest automatically returning to a first display region in response to a cancellation of a scrolling process. An additional action would be required from the user to change the task window located at the focus position back to the original display.

In addition to being allowable based on their dependency, directly or indirectly, from one of allowable claims 1, 8, and 15, claims 3-7, 10-14, and 17-21 of the subject application recite patentably distinguishing features of their own. For example, claims 4, 11, and 18 (as amended herein) recite (using the language of claims 11 and 18 as an example) "setting a mark indicating said first display region." None of the foregoing references, taken alone or in combination, discloses or suggests the same. The Examiner asserts that Ludolph discloses borders around windows, and that such borders can be used to set a mark indicating the first display region. However, in Ludolph, such borders are only used to define the boundaries of the window for purposes of activating or deactivating the windows. Such borders are not used to set any kind of mark indicating any display region, as in the present invention. Therefore, claims 3-7, 10-14, and 17-21 patentably distinguish over the foregoing references.

New Claims:

New claims 22-24 are added herein. Support for such new claims may be found in the Specification at page 15, line 36 – page 16, line 12.

Specifically, new claim 22 recites "a deleting section that deletes the mark."

New claims 23 and 24 recite "deleting the mark."

In addition to being allowable based on their dependency, directly or indirectly, from one of claims 1, 8, and 15, new claims 22-24 recite patentably distinguishing features of their own. The foregoing references, taken alone or in combination (if such a combination is proper), do not

disclose or suggest deleting the mark. Therefore, new claims 22-24 patentably distinguish over the foregoing references.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

There being no further objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested. Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By: 

Matthew Q. Ammon
Registration No. 50,346

Date: 7-19-2002
700 Eleventh Street, NW, Suite 500
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 434-1500

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please AMEND claims 1, 4, 8, 11-15, and 18-21. The remaining claims are reprinted, as a convenience to the Examiner, as they presently stand before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

1. (ONCE AMENDED) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a scrolling section which changes a display on a display screen from a first display region to a second display region that is different from the first display region by a scrolling process; and

a return section which automatically returns the display to said first display region in response to a cancellation of the scrolling process by said scrolling section.

2. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein both said first display region and said second display region are displayed within a single window which is displayed on the display screen.

3. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first display region is formed by one window within a multi-window which includes a plurality of windows, and said second display region is formed by another window within said multi-window.

4. (ONCE AMENDED) The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, [which] further [comprises] comprising:

a setting section which sets a mark indicating said first display region.

5. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said return section displays said first display region at a position where said mark is displayed on the display screen.

6. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said first display region is formed by a window within a multi-window which includes a plurality of windows, said second display region is formed by another window within said multi-window, and said return section displays said first display region at a position where said one window including the

mark is displayed at a frontmost position on the display screen.

7. The information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein said setting section sets the mark at a position of a cursor in said first display region.

8. (ONCE AMENDED) A display control method for controlling display of information on a display screen, comprising [the steps of]:

[(a)] changing a display on a display screen from a first display region to a second display region that is different from the first display region by a scrolling process; and

[(b)] automatically returning the display to said first display region in response to a cancellation of the scrolling process.

9. The display control method as claimed in claim 8, wherein both said first display region and said second display region are displayed within a single window which is displayed on the display screen.

10. The display control method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said first display region is formed by one window within a multi-window which includes a plurality of windows, and said second display region is formed by another window within said multi-window.

11. (ONCE AMENDED) The display control method as claimed in claim 8, [which] further [comprises the steps of] comprising:

[(c)] setting a mark indicating said first display region.

12. (ONCE AMENDED) The display control method as claimed in claim 11, wherein said [step (b)] automatically returning displays said first display region at a position where said mark is displayed on the display screen.

13. (ONCE AMENDED) The display control method as claimed in claim 12, wherein said first display region is formed by a window within a multi-window which includes a plurality of windows, said second display region is formed by another window within said multi-window, and said [step (b)] automatically returning displays said first display region at a position where said one window including the mark is displayed at a frontmost position on the display screen.

14. (ONCE AMENDED) The display control methods as claimed in claim 11, wherein said [step (c)] setting sets the mark at a position of a cursor in said first display region.

15. (ONCE AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium [which stores a program for causing a computer to control] that provides instructions controlling the display of information on a display screen, [said program comprising the steps of] which, when executed by a machine, causes the machine to perform operations comprising:

[(a)] changing a display on a display screen from a first display region to a second display region that is different from the first display region by a scrolling process; and

[(b)] automatically returning the display to said first display region in response to a cancellation of the scrolling process.

16. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein both said first display region and said second display region are displayed with a single widow which is displayed on the display screen.

17. The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein said first display region is formed by one window within a multi-window which includes a plurality of windows, and said second display region is formed by another window within said multi-window.

18. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein the [program further comprises the steps of] instructions cause the machine to perform operations further comprising:

[(c)] setting a mark indicating said first display region.

19. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said [step (b)] automatically returning displays said first display region at a position where said mark is displayed on the display screen.

20. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 19, wherein said first display region is formed by a window within a multi-window which includes a plurality of windows, said second display region is formed by another window within said multi-

window, and said [step (b)] automatically returning displays said first display region at a position where said one window including the mark is displayed at a frontmost position on the display screen.

21. (ONCE AMENDED) The computer-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 18, wherein said [step (c)] setting sets the mark at a position of a cursor in said first display region.

Please ADD the following new claims:

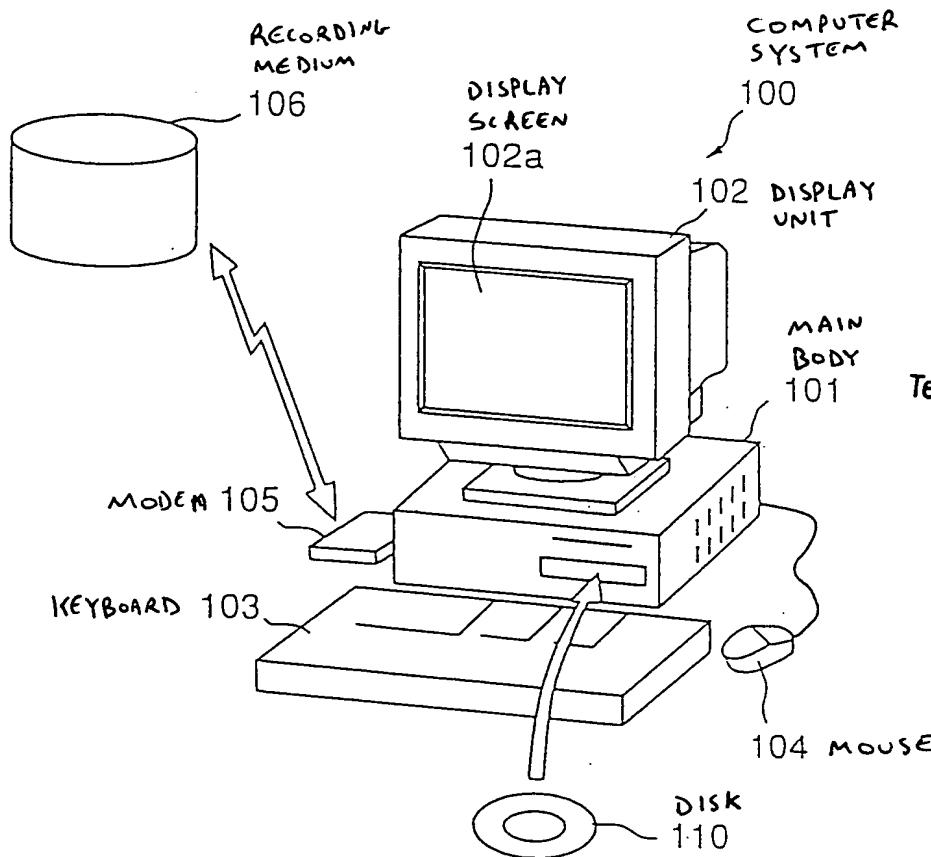
22. (NEW) The information processing apparatus of claim 4, further comprising: a deleting section that deletes the mark.

23. (NEW) The display control method of claim 11, further comprising: deleting the mark.

24. (NEW) The computer-readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein the instructions cause the machine to perform operations further comprising: deleting the mark.



FIG.1



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FIG.4

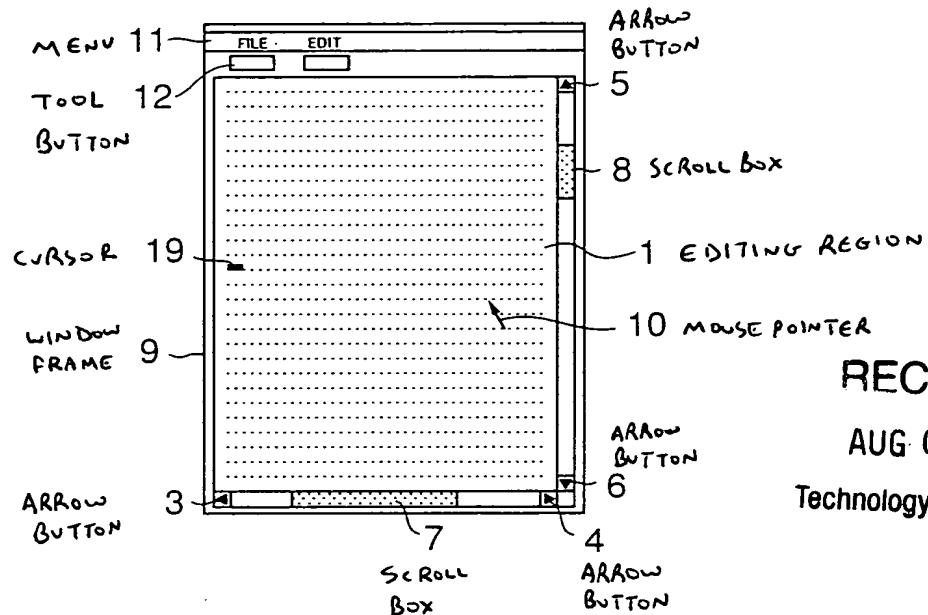


FIG.5

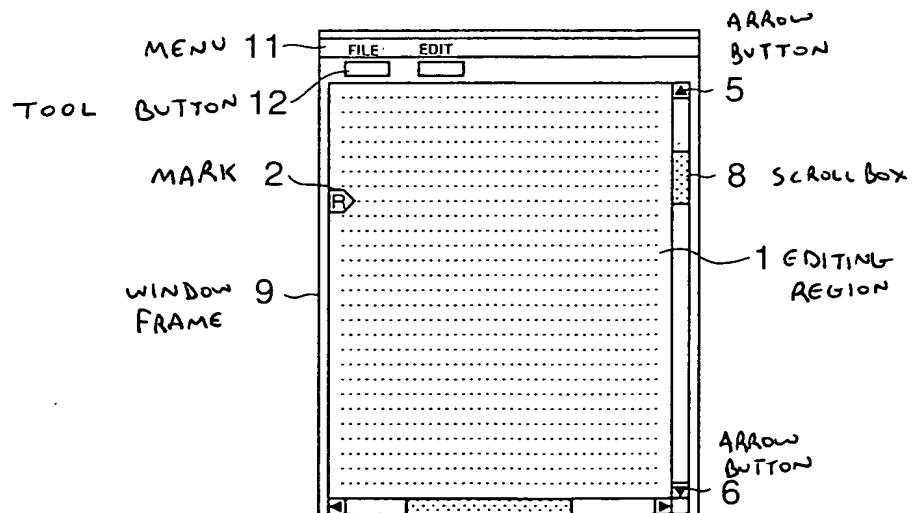
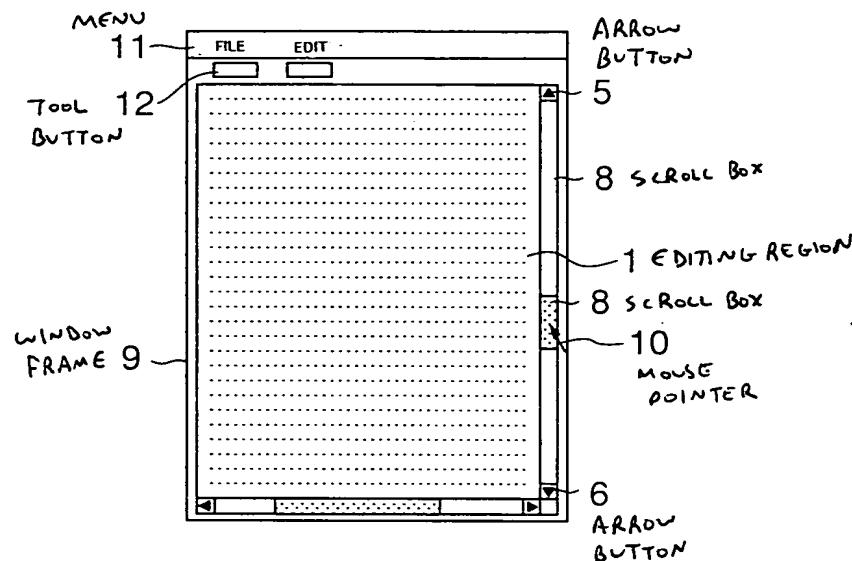




FIG.6



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FIG.7

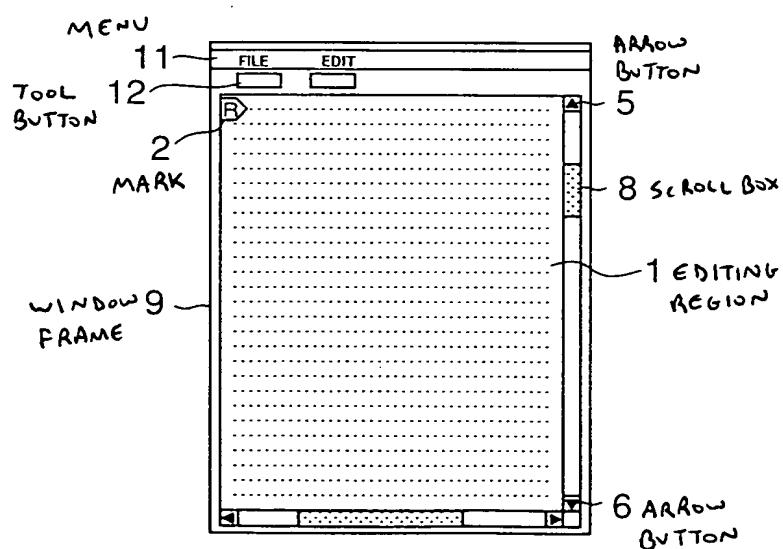




FIG.9

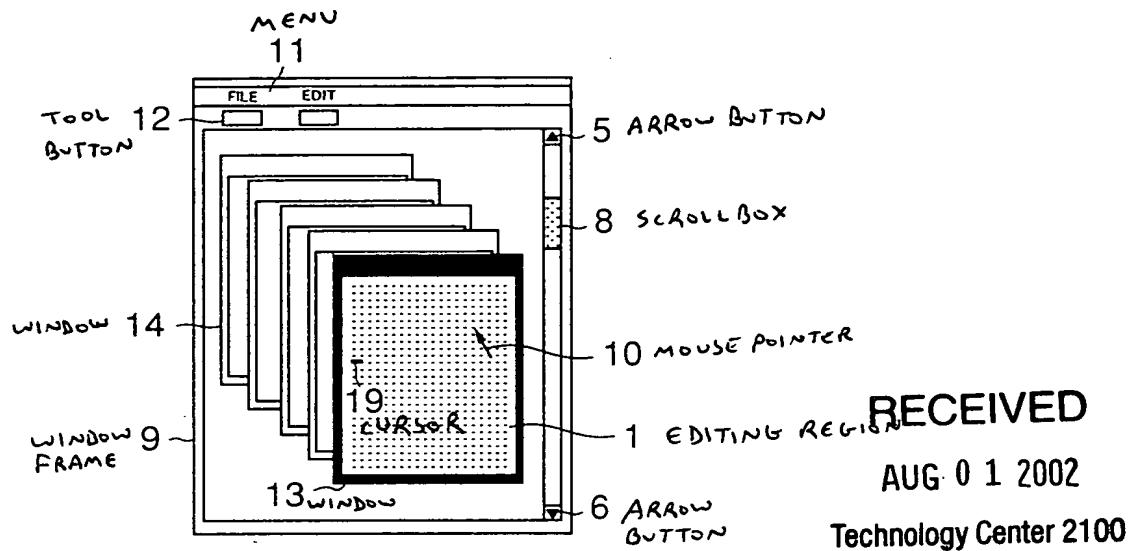
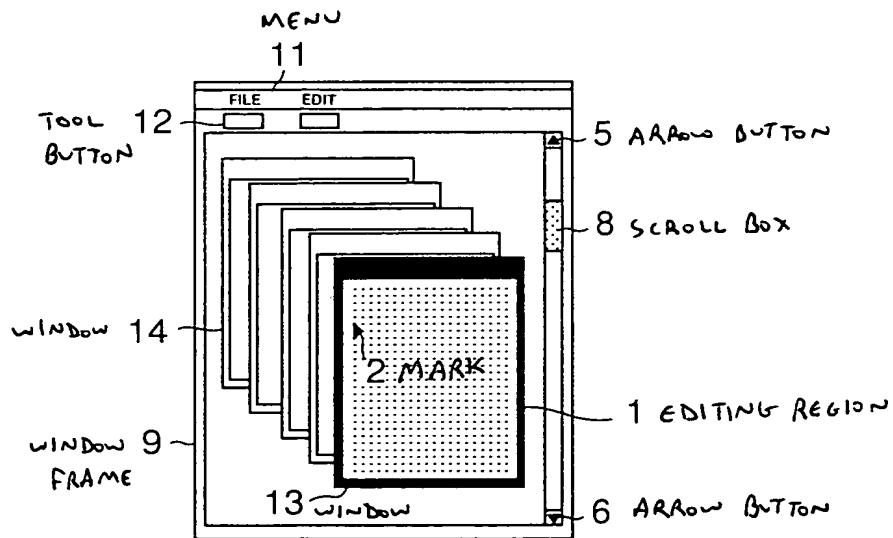
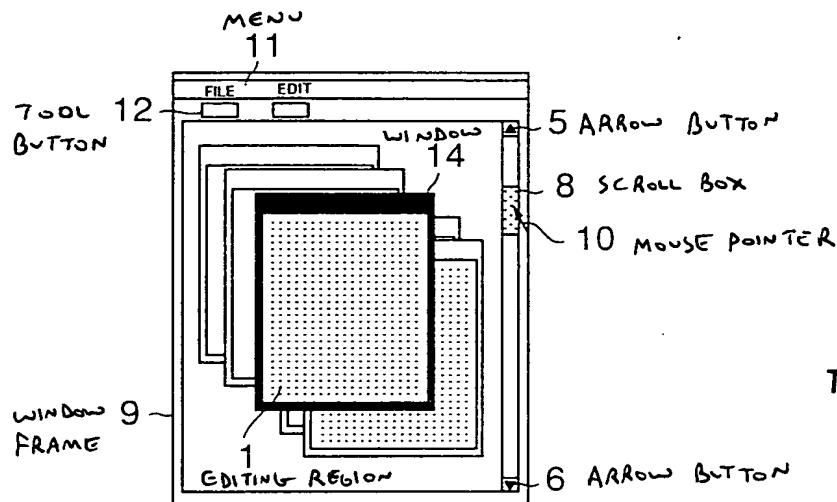


FIG.10



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FIG.11



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FIG.12

